



UP | DOWN  
After rough start, volleyball team heads to Big 12 Conference play  
**SPORTS PAGE 6**

EL ANATSUI  
Blanton Museum showing world-recognized African pieces  
**LIFE&ARTS PAGE 10**



>> Breaking news, blogs and more: [www.dailytexanonline.com](http://www.dailytexanonline.com) @thedailytexan facebook.com/dailytexan

Friday, September 23, 2011

WEEKEND

FRIDAY

**Hot Science, Cool Talks**  
Assistant psychology professor Alison Preston will explain how our brains use memories to anticipate future events. The talk begins at 5:45 p.m. in WEL 2.224.

**Neon Indian**  
The indie electronic band hailing from Denton will play a set at Mohawk beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

SATURDAY

**Bamboo Festival**  
Interested in sustainable clothes or jewelry? Stop by the Zilker Botanical Garden all day Saturday to learn all you could want to know about bamboo.

**Just Eat It**  
“Weird Al” Yankovic will perform at ACL Live at the Moody Theater. Doors open at 6:30 and tickets range from \$29 to \$49.

Today in history

**In 1889**  
The company Nintendo Koppai is founded in Japan to produce and market card games.

Inside

**In News:**  
Blanton opens Warhol exhibit **page 5**

**In Opinion:**  
The case for paid sick leave **page 4**

**In Sports:**  
Texas soccer takes on Baylor **page 6**

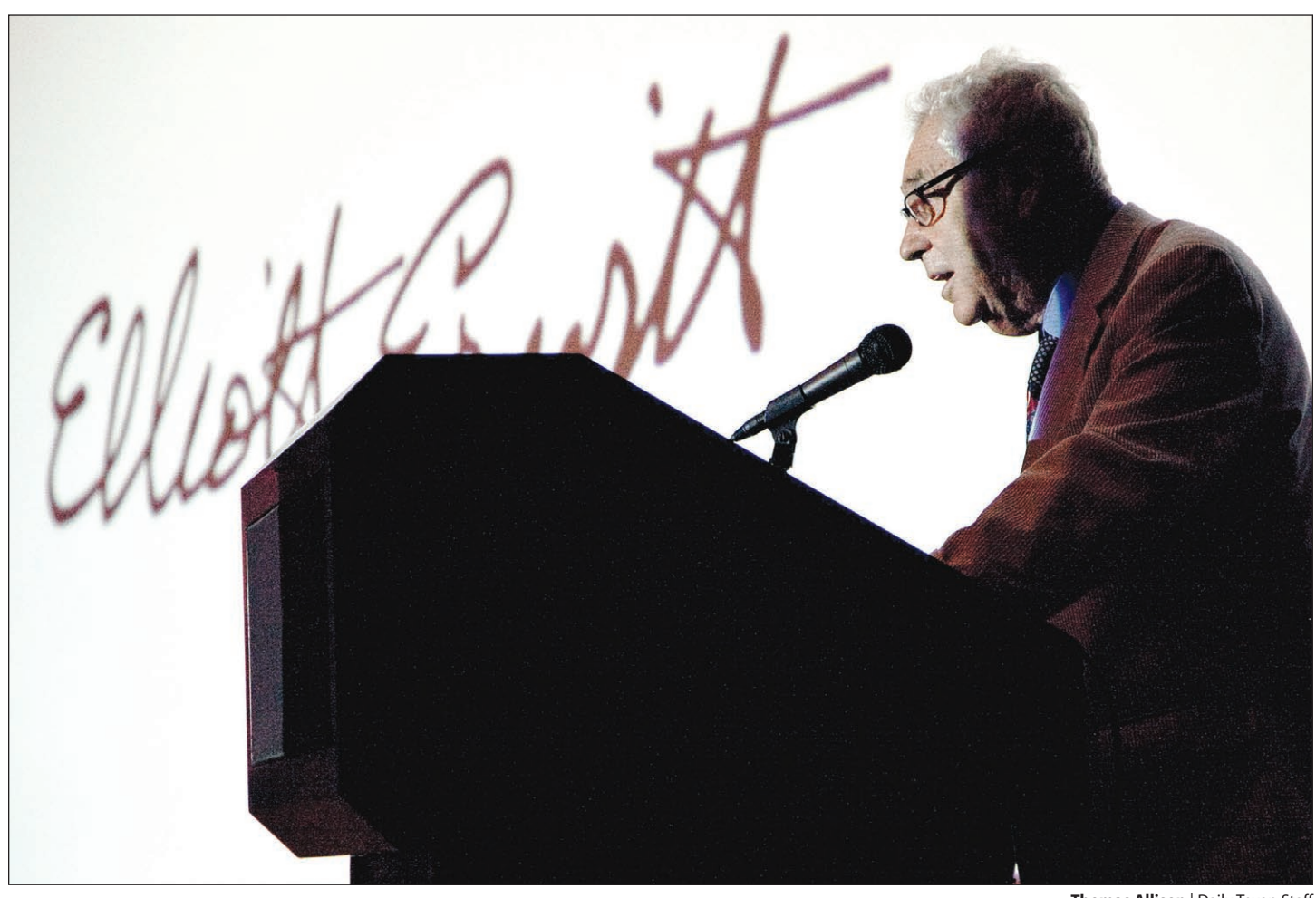
**In Life&Arts:**  
A peek at the Pecan Street Festival **page 10**

Quote to note

“The original worry that I had was going to be content, but we didn’t really have a problem coming up with a lot of content. We all could just talk and talk and talk and really there’s no end to it ... We have general ideas ... like we’re building a lair. It’s a skeptical-slash-hero lair.”

— **Jay Novella**  
SGU host

**LIFE&ARTS PAGE 7**



Thomas Allison | Daily Texan Staff

World-renowned photojournalist Elliott Erwitt presents a slideshow of more than six decades of photographic work in Homer Rainey Hall on Thursday night in front of a packed auditorium.

# Erwitt recalls photo-centered life

By Nick Hadjigeorge  
Daily Texan Staff

World-renowned photographer Elliott Erwitt has photographed a wide variety of subjects, from major historical figures to Parisian passersby and poodles. Erwitt presented personal favorites and well-known pieces at the Harry Ransom Center on Thursday night.

Erwitt joined the Magnum Photos agency in 1953, and his photos will be archived along with other Magnum pieces at the Ransom Center.

Erwitt had a major impact in the world of photojournalism and society in general, said Steven Hoelscher, a professor and chair of American Studies and Geography. “Few photographers have had a

greater impact on American culture than Elliott Erwitt,” Hoelscher said.

Part of Erwitt’s philosophy is that the perception of the photo plays a fundamental role in the quality of the photo, Hoelscher said.

“Photography is the art of observation,” Hoelscher said, quoting Erwitt. “It has little to do with what you see but rather how you see it.” Erwitt called himself a professional

photographer with a serious hobby in photography and began his slide show during Thursday’s event with photographs of dogs that were taken outside of his formal job.

“I like dogs for many reasons,” Erwitt said. “I’m sympathetic to them, they are universal, they don’t mind being photographed

**ERWITT** continues on **PAGE 2**



Thomas Allison | Daily Texan Staff

Christy Moore, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, thanks the City Council for honoring her late husband, associate professor Kent Butler.

# Reserve named in memory of late associate professor who dedicated two years to project

By Shreya Banerjee  
Daily Texan Staff

In honor of late UT associate professor Kent Butler, Austin City Council members have renamed a section of the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve in an effort to keep his memory alive.

Council members announced

the official Kent Butler Ecological Reserve during the regular council meeting at city hall Thursday.

Butler began teaching in the School of Architecture in 1978 and later became associate dean for research operations and program director of the graduate program in Community and Regional Planning. He also dedicated his time

helping establish the preserve, the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer groundwater management district and the environmental department for the Lower Colorado River Authority.

“One reason they’re naming [the preserve] after him is because he

**RESERVE** continues on **PAGE 2**

# UT professor authors book about interpersonal skills

By Omar Gamboa  
Daily Texan Staff

An award-winning UT professor known for his enthusiasm in the classroom has authored a book he hopes will inspire others to reach their goals through effective communication techniques.

Communication studies and management professor John Daly unveiled his latest book, “Advocacy: Championing Ideas and Influencing Others,” on Thursday night at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center. Daly, who teaches interpersonal communication skills to both

College of Communication and McCombs School of Business students, said he’s been a part of UT’s faculty for 34 years now, and has written more than 100 scholarly articles and completed six academic books.

“I want everyone to know about what I’ve taught and included in this book — it’s a zealous goal of mine,” Daly said.

Building on the interpersonal communication lessons Daly teaches, he says the art of persuasion is the message that he wants to present to a much wider public with the

**DALY** continues on **PAGE 2**



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

John Daly signs a copy of his new book “Advocacy: Championing Ideas and Influencing Others” on Thursday afternoon.

# University Co-op creates YouTube channel to show tailgaters’ game day spirit

By Allie Kolechta  
Daily Texan Staff

UT tailgaters will have their chance at 15 minutes of YouTube fame because of a new channel hosted by the University Co-op.

The Burnt Orange Tailgating Channel began streaming on YouTube after the UT vs. Rice game at the beginning of this season. The

new channel asks tailgaters from both teams questions submitted by UT football fans. The Co-op will accept questions from Facebook and Twitter users prior to game day and hopes to increase traffic to their social media pages by providing a new way to look at UT spirit on game day, said UT co-op promotions manager Will Kelleher. Co-op staff will interview tailgaters at all home

games, looking for answers to some of the questions, Kelleher said.

“The reason behind it was to explore the pregame rituals and all of the University of Texas passion that surrounds football games on Saturday,” he said. “We wanted to get a first-hand deal from it and just have fun, talk to UT students and connect to UT students and get entertaining content.”

The UT vs. Rice game’s videos drew approximately about 1,400 views, and the UT vs. BYU game drew 2,500 views, Kelleher said.

“We’re expecting to grow exponentially throughout the season, especially with some of our Big 12 rivals,” he said. “It’ll be great to see what kind of questions people have for the OU, Oklahoma State and A&M games.”

Chemistry sophomore Stuart Reynolds is a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, which tailgates near the stadium before every home game. The Burnt Orange Tailgating Channel is a cool concept, but they have to plan for all activities that might happen at tailgates, he said.

“They just have to understand

**TAILGATE** continues on **PAGE 2**



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## CORRECTION


Because of a reporting error in Wednesday Page 1 news story about a new supercomputer, the story should not have said Intel planned to change planned to change their role with the project.

## CLARIFICATION

Tuesday's front-page story "Greek studies to be eliminated from UT majors" should have clarified that although the major in Greek will be eliminated, certain degree plans will still require students to enroll in Greek courses, and UT will still offer Greek language classes.

## TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High  
100



Low  
72

Hello  
Kidney

# PROPANE & PROPANE ACCESSORIES



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

Students participate in a propane fire training simulator outside of Gregory Gym on Thursday. The training class is done once a month and is required by Environmental Health & Safety for students in certain laboratory classes.

## DALY continues from PAGE 1

book, which pushes aside many of the restrictions he felt his previous academic textbooks contained.

"It's all about how good you are at selling your arguments that gets you on top, I say — and the best way to learn to do that is to study others who already know how to present themselves," Daly said. "Networking isn't 'who you know,' but 'who knows you' and how you've influenced them over time."

Campus Club administrative coordinator Morgan Jones said she took Daly's course as a communications student at UT and that she has carried what she learned there along with her in both her career and her relationships. "I love my job and I think that maybe his communication lessons should very well be thanked for it," Jones said. "It's now my job to highlight this facility, and we just wanted to help him sell his work."

Communication graduate students Nicholas Merola and Nadina Sandlin said they remember going to Daly's lectures and seeing undergraduate students that were not even enrolled flooding the classroom only to see the professor "do his thing."

"I just can't wait to dig in," Merola said. "This book has pretty much been in the making for four years by Daly, and I've been waiting to read his enthusiasm on paper."

Both Merola and Sandlin said they agreed the charisma and animated gestures of Daly in the classroom would have to be called a "dance" because of its inability to be described.

"It feels really nice having someone close to you being able to do this and get their word out," Sandlin said. "What Daly teaches is something that everyone can take in and use in any situation — you'll definitely take it with you."

*This book has pretty much been in the making for four years by Daly, and I've been waiting to read his enthusiasm on paper.*

— Nicholas Merola, Graduate student

## TAILGATE continues from PAGE 1

that a lot of people don't want their faces shown," he said. "I don't condone it and I don't want to get myself in trouble, but there is underage drinking that goes on.

As long as the questions are interesting and relevant, Burnt Orange Tailgating would be a good way to increase school spirit before and after football games, said sophomore Andrea Velazquez.

This is Velazquez's first year going to football games and tailgating, she said.

"It's going to be cool to get some YouTube exposure, and also it's cool to see what other fans are thinking," she said. "I would ask

probably what your favorite part of the actual game is. From the half-time show to watching the commercials on the big screen, to the moment after scoring a touchdown or even walking out of the stadium after a game, there are plenty of different parts of the game experience."

fore and after football games, said sophomore Andrea Velazquez. This is Velazquez's first year going to football games and tailgating, she said.

"It's going to be cool to get some YouTube exposure, and also it's cool to see what other fans are thinking," she said. "I would ask

## ERWITT continues from PAGE 1

and they don't ask for prints."

These photos showed many examples of his usage of interesting perspectives and context to create a humorous or surprising photograph.

Erwitt also showed photographs documenting historical events, which Hoelscher said played a major role in shaping the culture of America, as well as the world. Erwitt told the story of a time when he was in Moscow during the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union.

"I took the very first pictures of the Soviet intercontinental

missiles," Erwitt said. "Nobody else was allowed to take pictures but I went through four security checkpoints and took photos. When I was found out, I rushed back to my hotel and developed the prints in my bathroom. It was my first real big coup."

When asked what the most defining moment of his career was, Erwitt told The Daily Texan he is still waiting for it.

Photojournalism professor and fellow Magnum photographer Eli Reed said he saw Erwitt as more

than a colleague. "I've known him for so long, he's like my best friend and family member," Reed said. "He's also the most honest man in the business."

Photojournalism graduate student Spencer Selvidge said he enjoyed Erwitt's ability to creatively portray subjects while having fun at the same time. "His work is very strong in a photojournalistic sense, but he doesn't take himself totally serious all the time," Selvidge said. "It's what makes him, him."

## RESERVE continues from PAGE 1

played a crucial role in its creation," said Fritz Steiner, dean of the School of Architecture. "He took a leave for about two years to work on a plan that made the preserve a reality. He was an environmental planner and he was a real pioneer in the field, so this was integral to his interest."

The reserve also contains a protected area for the Golden-cheeked Warbler, an endangered species of bird which nests exclusively in Texas, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

Though Butler was originally a business student at the University of Pennsylvania, he went on to earn three degrees in water research management and used that experience to influence environmental planning students at UT.

He participated in many water and nature conservation projects and worked with the Galveston Bay Estuary Program, the Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act and plans to create an urban rainwater system.

Butler died of injuries sustained from a fall while on a hike in Yosemite National Park in May. According to published obituaries, the fall occurred when Butler moved on a trail to let other hikers pass by.

"[After his death], we were thinking about ways to commemorate him through scholarships, but our daughter Emily wanted to see a natural preserve named after him," said Butler's wife, Christy Moore, senior mechanical engineering lecturer. "We all stopped because it was both daunting and perfect for him. I hope these honors bestowed on Kent inspire us to be environmentalists and citizens."

Mayor Lee Leffingwell, who knew Butler, reached out to the

family and offered to pay tribute to Butler's years of service to the community.

"It became clear very quickly to find a beautiful piece of the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve and name it after Kent," said Matt Curtis, spokesman for the mayor. "The Butler reserve both represents his dedication to the Edwards Aquifer, which lies beneath the preserve, and the canyonland preserve he helped create."

Butler's family said they appreciated the support from the Austin public and the city council.

"This [honor] has been awe-inspiring," Butler's stepson Nick Kinkaid said. "The response from the community has been really positive during this time and we can really see the effect Kent had on the community."

The UT School of Architecture will hold a symposium in Butler's honor from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Jessen Auditorium in Homer Rainey Hall.

THE DAILY TEXAN

This newspaper was printed with pride by The Daily Texan and Texas Student Media.

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# BIG 12

continues from PAGE 1

A&M to the Southeastern Conference, Nebraska to the Big 10, Colorado to the Pac-12. But he also kept the conference intact last summer, when it looked to be on its last breath. Beebe also was in charge when the league agreed to a \$1 billion TV deal with FOX last spring.

"We sincerely thank Dan who has always demonstrated a total commitment to what is in the best interest of the Big 12 Conference," said University of Missouri chancellor Brady Deaton, also the chairman of the conference's board of directors. "His energy, devotion and skill in negotiating on our behalf have been tremendous assets that have benefited our member institutions, our student athletes, our athletic programs and all our fans."

But his final action — a selfless and brave one — should be commended. And it proves that despite everything else, Beebe cared most about keeping the conference together.

"It is satisfying to know the Big 12 Conference will survive," Beebe said. "I congratulate the members for taking strong action to ensure a bright future as a premier intercollegiate athletics conference."

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.





Richard Drew | Associated Press

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad addresses the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday.

## Diplomats walk from Iranian speech

By Edith M. Lederer  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — American diplomats led a walkout at the U.N. General Assembly Thursday as Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad fiercely attacked the United States and major West European nations as "arrogant powers" ruled by greed and eager for military adventurism.

The two U.S. diplomats, who specialize in the Middle East, were followed out of the chamber by diplomats from more than 30 countries. Israel boycotted the speech.

Ahmadinejad's speech pitted the poverty and unhappiness of most countries against the riches and power of the U.S. and unnamed European nations that

he accused of perpetuating wars, causing the current global economic crisis and infringing on "the rights and sovereignty of nations."

He attacked the United States and European colonial powers for abducting tens of millions of Africans and making them slaves, for their readiness "to drop thousands of bombs on other countries," and for dominating the U.N. Security Council.

"It is as lucid as daylight that the same slave masters and colonial powers that once instigated the two world wars have caused widespread misery and disorder with far-reaching effects across the globe since then," Ahmadinejad said. "Do these arro-

gant powers really have the competence and ability to run or govern the world?"

The Iranian president answered by calling for "the shared and collective management of the world in order to put an end to the present disorders, tyranny and discriminations worldwide." Last year, he said "the future belongs to Iran" and challenged the U.S. to accept that his country has a major role in the world.

"The world assembly should take with a grain of salt the remarks of a leader who said nothing about the public hanging yesterday of a 17-year-old in his own country," Human Rights Watch's U.N. Director Philippe Bolopion said.

## NEWS BRIEFLY

### 9 charged with smuggling cigs into Maryland to resell at profit

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. — Authorities say nine people have been indicted on charges of illegally smuggling cigarettes from Virginia to Maryland, and nearly 15,000 packs of contraband cigarettes have been seized.

Officials say smugglers who buy cigarettes in states such as Virginia, where the tax on a pack is 30 cents, can illegally resell them in higher-tax states such as Maryland, where the tax is \$2 per pack of 20 cigarettes.

The nine indicted list addresses in New York, New Jersey and Maryland.

All told, Maryland state comptroller Peter Franchot says 115 people were arrested in a cigarette smuggling crackdown in Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30 and more than 180,000 packs of cigarettes were seized.

### LA fire truck used as porn film backdrop without approval

LOS ANGELES — A Los Angeles Fire Department spokeswoman

says the department is investigating allegations that some firefighters allowed porn producers to use fire trucks in adult films.

KNBC-TV reports that a Los Angeles fire engine was used as a backdrop for a porn film shot at Venice Beach. Footage aired on KNBC showed a topless woman sitting on the apparatus.

Captain Tina Haro told the station that the department has "zero tolerance" for the alleged misbehavior. She says Fire Chief Brian Cummings has ordered an investigation into the allegations because they clearly violate department policy.

### Downed plane reported in Ohio was really just water park prop

MASON, Ohio — A possible plane crash reported near an Ohio interstate turned out to be only a prop on the grounds of a water park.

Media outlets report a passing motorist on Interstate 71 north of Cincinnati thought it was a downed plane and alerted authorities late Wednesday morning. Fire and emergency crews were dispatched to the scene.

Spokesman Derek Blevins at The Beach water park in Mason tells

WHIO radio the decorative prop has been on the property since May and was never an issue before. But he says it may be more visible from the interstate because falling leaves have reduced the amount of tree cover.

### Muslim students at UC-Irvine goes to trial over loud protest

SANTA ANA, Calif. — A jury has completed its first full day of deliberations in the trial of 10 Muslim students charged with disrupting a speech by an Israeli diplomat at the University of California, Irvine.

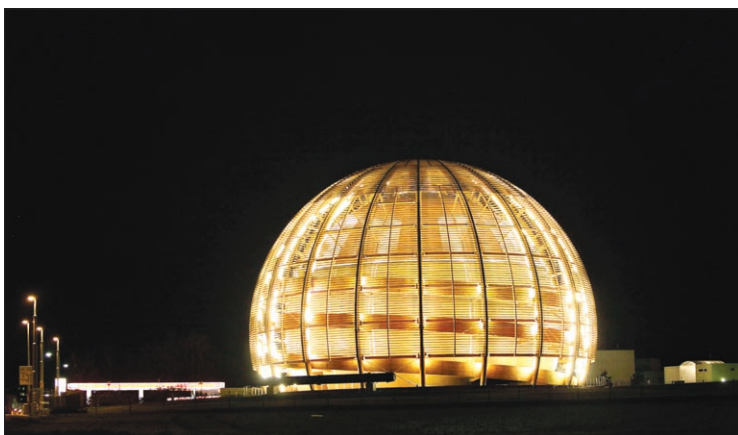
The Orange County Superior Court jury went home for the day Wednesday and will resume deliberations Thursday morning.

The jurors are deciding whether the students broke the law or were exercising a right to demonstrate when they shouted during Ambassador Michael Oren's February 2010 speech about U.S.-Israel relations.

The students face misdemeanor charges of conspiring to disrupt a meeting and disrupting a meeting. If convicted, they face sentences ranging from probation with community service and fines to a year in jail.

Compiled from Associated Press reports

## BREAKING THE SPEED OF LIGHT



Anja Niedringhaus | Associated Press

Scientists at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva, Switzerland, say they have clocked subatomic particles, called neutrinos, traveling faster than light — a feat that, if true, would break a fundamental pillar of Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity, the idea that nothing is supposed to move faster than light. The readings have so astounded researchers that they are asking others to independently verify the measurements before claiming an actual discovery.

— The Associated Press

# WGH

VIDEOGAME HOUR LIVE

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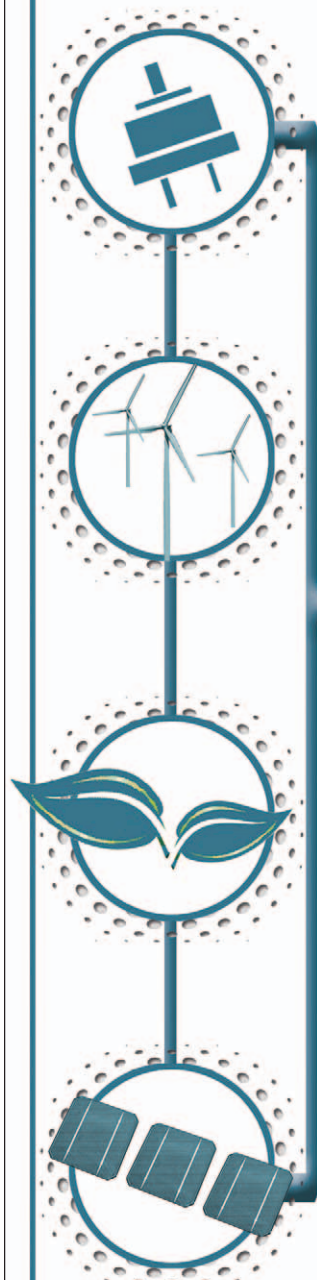
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## OVERVIEW

## A reminder to the regents

The Legislature's Joint Committee on Higher Education Governance, Excellence and Transparency held its first hearing Wednesday, and despite the nearly packed Senate Finance Committee Room, the targets of the hearing were as clear as they were absent: boards of regents.

The committee was born out of the state's higher education controversy in the spring, and three out of the four witnesses spoke about regents' roles and higher education governance.

The regent position is an appointment, intentionally void of traditional political accountability and charged with making decisions that have long-term implications with students, employees, universities and the state in mind.

Yet, the same structure that lends power and responsibility allows them to operate in a vacuum. Tough decisions sometimes require a slight separation from the immediate constituency, but slipping from disconnect to disengagement is a sad place for Texas higher education to be.

Additionally, the power to appoint regents sits in the hands of a man who hesitates little when turning the ideas of his cash-flushed inner circle into the tune of the state's political square dance.

The hearings themselves will not change higher education in Texas. But they serve as a reminder to regents across the state that while they may sit within walls of invincibility, they do not lack cloaks of invisibility.

## Remember student athletes in realignment discussions

The Board of Regents gave President William Powers Jr. the authority Monday to make any necessary decisions to align the University with the sports conference that will best suit its future needs. Since Texas A&M signaled that it will leave the conference next year, the Big 12 has started to look more like the Nervous 9, as it fired commissioner Dan Beebe on Thursday. Indeed, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University are courting other conferences, while Baylor is publicly threatening to sue to keep the conference together. The mood is chaotic.

The University would greatly benefit from ending the confusion as soon as possible. Conference realignment negotiations, while diverting, are distracting administrators from much more important problems. Moreover, the University's financial situation post-realignment seems to be the most important factor. This greed — the very force, embodied in the much-maligned Longhorn Network, which many argue prompted A&M's departure and everyone else's subsequent scramble — is threatening to make a bad situation worse. A desire to wring as much money as possible from any new conference partner, while somewhat understandable, is profoundly alienating.

And amid Powers' recent speech challenging the University to increase its four-year graduation rates, it seems strange to not focus on the effects, particularly travel times, that aligning with another conference will have on the schedules of student-athletes, many of whom do not graduate at the levels the president has called for the rest of the University to reach. Student-athletes should be featured more prominently in these discussions.

## LEGALESE

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## Enact paid sick leave in Austin



By Samian Quazi  
Daily Texan Columnist

Seattle joined Washington D.C. and San Francisco on Sept. 12 in requiring most businesses to provide paid sick leave to employees. Sick leave is a hot political issue debated nationwide, and the blockbuster hit "Contagion" has only fueled the debate. The Austin City Council should now ensure our residents enjoy these same benefits as Seattle's by passing comparable legislation.

The Seattle law grants paid sick leave based on a company's size and hours worked by the employee, according to The Seattle Times. Businesses with the equivalent of five to 49 full-time employees will be required to provide five paid sick days annually. Sick leave would accrue at a rate of one hour for every 40 hours worked. Companies with larger pools of employees would be required to provide successively higher numbers of sick days, up to nine days annually. And the law promotes fledgling start-ups by exempting businesses less than two years old.

The central argument behind paid sick leave is that employees who cannot afford to lose a day's wages or risk being fired for staying home pose a serious public health hazard when they show up for work. Food servers, bank tellers and university professors alike can easily spread infective pathogens such as the flu virus and the cold when they show up for work rather than rest at home.

UT administrators have long understood that healthy staff is a must for a vibrant and safe university. According to UT's Human Resource Services website, non-student employees who work at least 20 hours weekly for 4.5 months qualify for sick leave. UT also set in place guidelines for accruing paid sick leave and includes provisions for using sick days to care for ill immediate family members.

Most Austinites in the private-sector are unfortunately bereft of similar benefits. Paid sick leave and its concomitant faster recovery time at home will give Austin families the peace of mind to leave work to pick up a sick child from school and care for them. If our city council can frame a law similar to Seattle's, Austin victims of domestic abuse would be able to take days off to go to court or assist law enforcement, according to Fox News.

Such legislation would have to be narrowly construed to prevent employees from using paid sick days other than its intended purposes. Two years ago the Austin American-Statesman reported that the city had paid out \$2.1 million to departing police officers whose union had negotiated payouts

for unused sick time. Four officers were paid nearly \$100,000 simply for retiring without using their granted sick days.

The council should explicitly prohibit such an abuse if it were to require sick leave on Austin businesses. Employees shouldn't be paid for unused sick time as a reward for perfect attendance. That reward should be reflected in glowing employee reviews and a workplace culture that favors punctuality and diligence as factors for promotion and salary increases. Paid sick leave is a crucial benefit that should be protected from systemic abuse.

Americans are increasingly aware of the health risks of lacking a paid leave policy. The film "Contagion" sensationalizes the rapid spread of a virus among the general public and has served as fodder for debate on whether communities are adequately prepared for public health epidemics.

The consensus among public health officials is that the best thing for an employee to do is to stay home. In fact, the U.S. economy loses an estimated \$180 billion annually from diminished productivity when sick employees come to work.

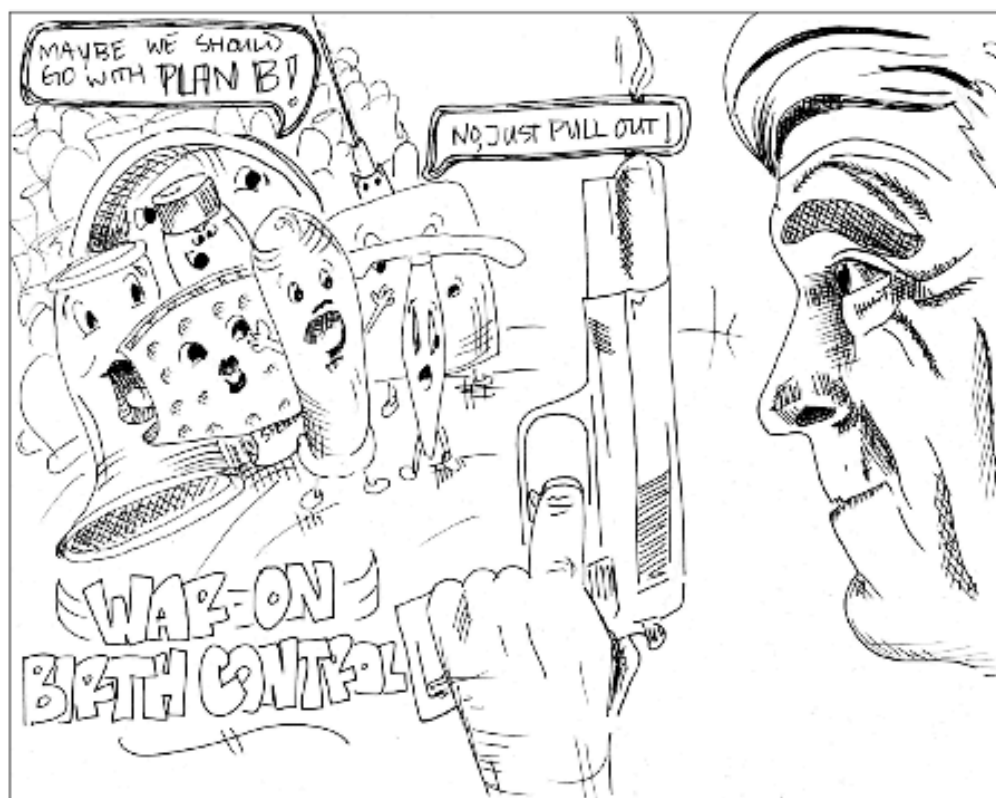
Reforms on paid sick days are long overdue. According to the Center for Economic and Policy Research, the United States is "the only country among 22 countries ranked highly in terms of economic and human development that does not guarantee that workers receive paid sick days or paid sick leave."

Indeed, competitive developed nations such as Germany and Australia have comparably generous paid sick leave policies, while we have none. And such a system is not that costly. A Bureau of Labor Statistics report "estimates that private firms dish out 23 cents an hour to provide sick leave. It's only 8 cents in the service sector," according to a Sept. 14 Forbes column.

And any argument that paid sick leave translates to less job growth is clearly unsubstantiated. The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy analyzed the aftermath of San Francisco's paid sick leave law in 2007. This was when the recession was still in its early stages. The report found that San Francisco job growth has consistently been higher than in neighboring counties without such a law.

The evidence overwhelmingly indicates any cost incurred by Austin businesses implementing paid sick leave is well worth the benefit. For just 23 cents an hour (eight in the service sector!), City Council can improve workplace standards, public health and family care while maintaining business growth.

Quazi is a nursing graduate student.



Lucy Grissold | Daily Texan Staff

## THE FIRING LINE

## Inaccuracies of ad regarding Israel-Palestine conflict

The ad titled "The entire Palestinian case against Israel is based on a lie," which ran in The Daily Texan on Wednesday, began with the stereotypical Zionist premise that there are no Palestinians to speak of. This rejection of a Palestinian nationality is the thesis of the entire ad, and it tries to relegate the traditional term to being nothing more than a construction which the Greeks — not the Romans, as these ill-informed writers would have you believe — created. Tradition is not always a good thing, and blindly following it without reason or factual basis is backwards.

These representatives argue that at the time of Israel's creation, there had been no Palestine since the Roman occupation of the Levant. If they had studied history more cautiously, they would have known that the British Empire created mandates, including that of Palestine, after World War I. Therefore, Palestinians had a land to call their own that was recognized by the British Empire well before the establishment of the U.N.

The existence of the mandate also debunks the authors' statement that no Arabs called themselves Palestinians until 1964; in fact, from 1911 until the beginning of the British mandate, various community leaders had been establishing an emerging national identity. The Palestinians had therefore adopted a national and collective identity prior to 1948.

One key feature, which the authors neglected to reference, was the exodus in 1948. Between 600,000 and 750,000 people either fled or were exiled from their homes in what would become Israel after the 1948 war between the newly announced (though geographically undefined) Israel and neighboring Arab countries (excluding Palestinians). Palestinians argue that their lands are currently occupied because they were purged from their homes during this period.

Other mistakes in the ad that were made by representatives of the David Horowitz Freedom Center include that Arab peoples freely "elected oppressive regimes." If the authors had been watching the news for the first six months of this year, they would have seen the Arab Spring as a counterargument to their statement.

Additionally, the ad continues by stating, without citing any evidence, that Arabs are responsible for rejecting peace for the past

60 years. Unfortunately for the less-knowledgeable, they would be unaware of the fact that this "rejection" and aggression was started by the French and, more importantly to Israelis and Palestinians, the British, who dissected what we now call the "Middle East" from the remains of the Ottoman Empire after World War I.

The last significant error this ad features is an appeal to the irrational fear of failing to prevent a "second Holocaust." Iran's acquisition of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) would in no way be comparable to the utter destruction which Israel could deal to any threat in the region with the WMDs it possesses, according to an August 2000 BBC News article.

Having read this ad several times, I have tried to balance the terribly biased and poor argument of the ad. I hope that my peers feel slightly more informed about this issue. Like a majority of Americans who would like to see a bipartisan effort between Republicans and Democrats to solve the problems of this country, I greatly desire to see this conflict come to a mutually beneficial resolution. But with no end in sight, and with both parties dedicated to constructed ideologies, we are forced to play with the hand we're dealt.

— Samuel A. Huckleberry  
History junior

## Greek studies still offered

"Greek studies" is not about to be eliminated either as a field of study or as a major here, as the story titled "Greek studies to be eliminated from UT majors," which ran in The Daily Texan on Thursday, suggests. The classics department continues to offer a wide range of courses on the languages and cultures of ancient Greece and Rome (classical studies), and UT students will continue to have multiple options for pursuing degrees that include advanced work in the language and culture of ancient Greece.

Yes, the Higher Education Coordinating Board has directed UT to eliminate one of our majors: the bachelor's in Greek. But students still have four other degree options that require advanced work in ancient Greek language and culture: classics, classical archaeology, ancient history and classical civilization and Latin. The classics major requires advanced work in both Greek and Latin language. The classical archaeology and ancient history majors

require advanced work in classical culture and also in either Greek or Latin. Even the bachelor's in Latin requires advanced work in either Greek or classical culture.

It's worth emphasizing also that the elimination of our Greek major is unlikely to have any impact on our course offerings, either. As we pointed out to the coordinating board both this year and previously, all of our courses in Greek language and culture serve many other groups and degree plans besides Greek majors. So eliminating this major will have virtually no impact on either the UT budget or what students will be able to study here. As for the symbolic impact, well — that's another story.

— Stephen White  
Chair, Department of Classics

## From Texas to Georgia: Stop executions!

Troy Davis was executed in Georgia at 11:08 p.m. Wednesday. He was denied a stay by the Supreme Court, despite serious doubts about his case.

Let me give a brief synopsis: Troy Davis' is no ordinary case. He was convicted in 1991 of murdering a police officer in Georgia. There was no physical evidence, no weapon ever found. There were only nine witnesses leading to this man's future in prison. He was sentenced to death row, a place already fraught with claims of racism and arbitrariness.

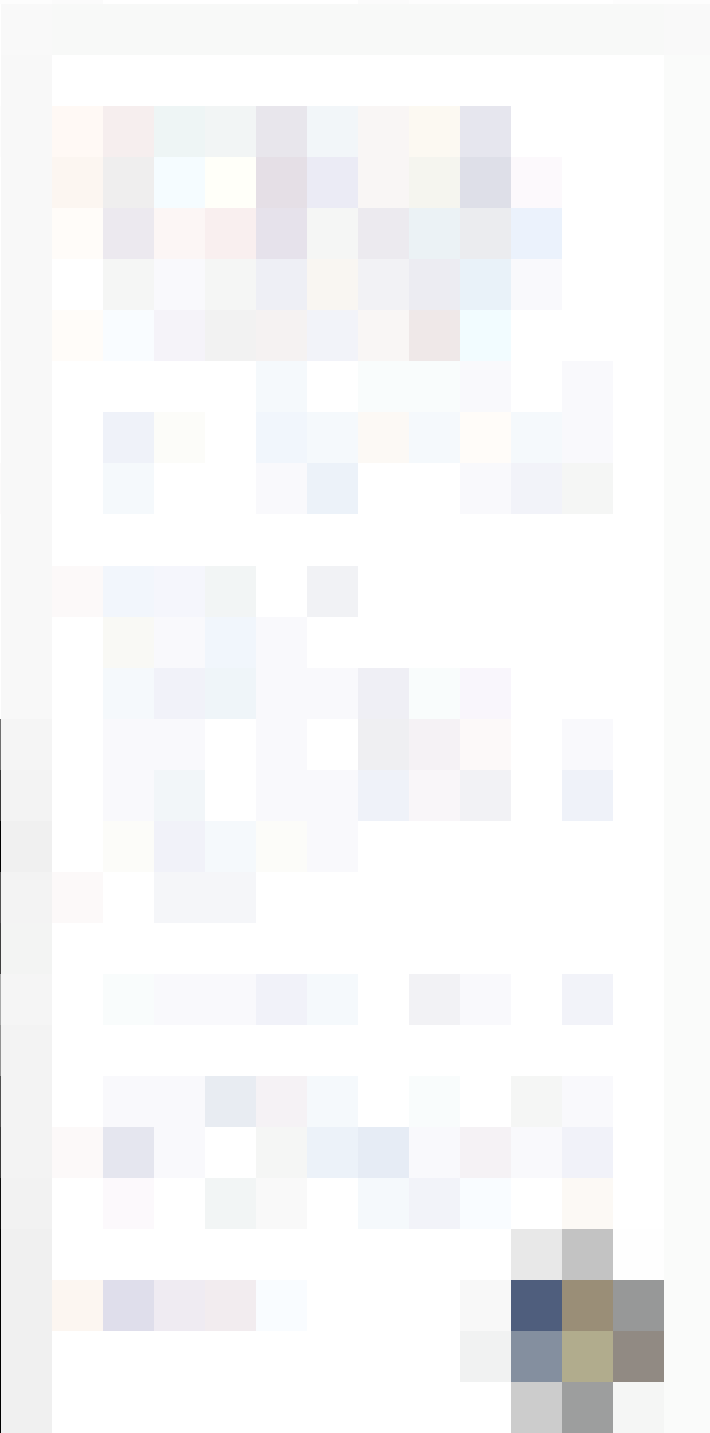
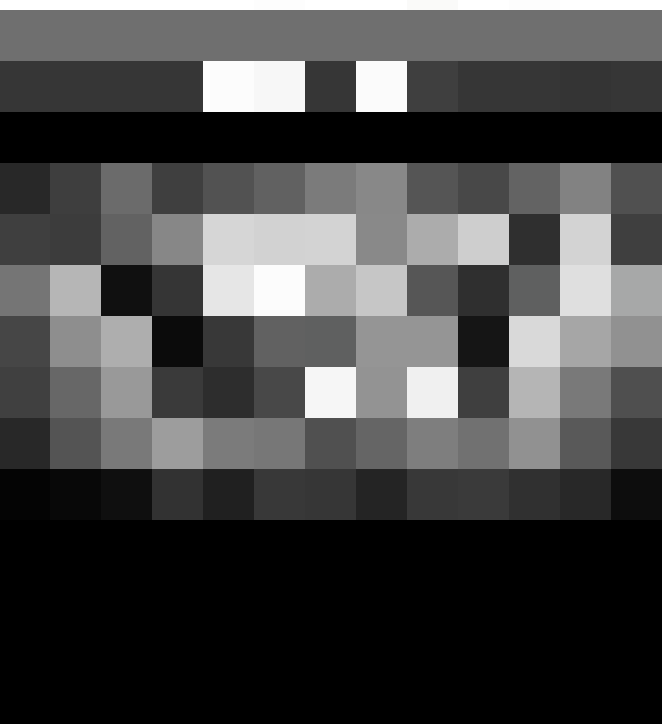
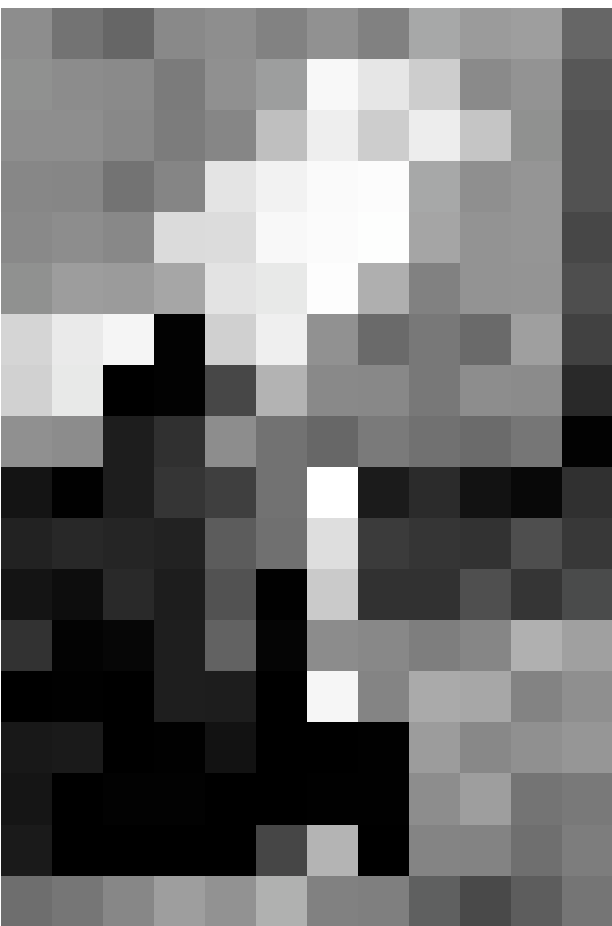
Then the case against him collapsed as seven of the nine witnesses came forward with changed stories and claims of police coercion. They recanted their testimonies, but the judge determined that these witnesses were "unreliable" and declined to review the case against Troy Davis.

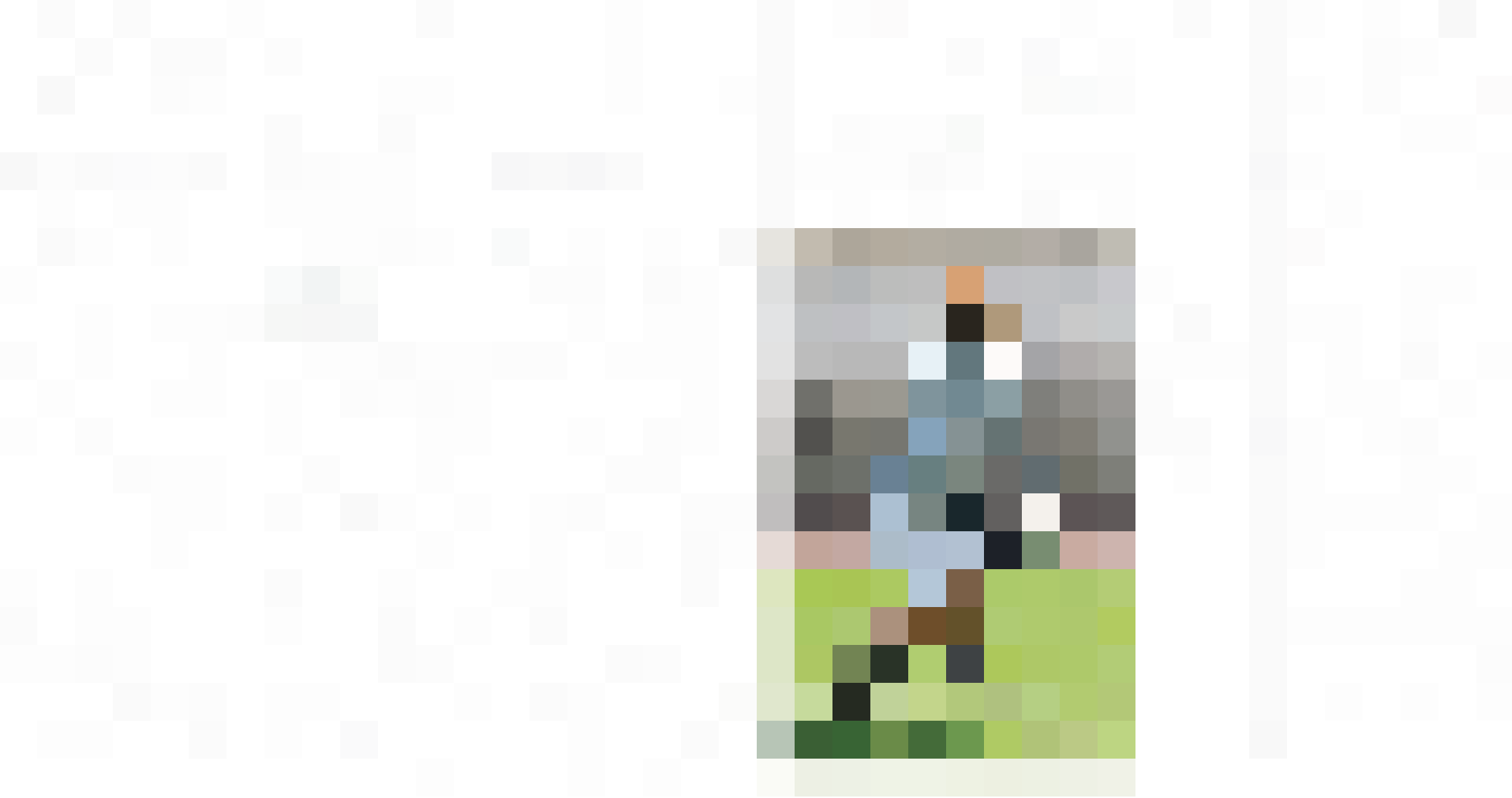
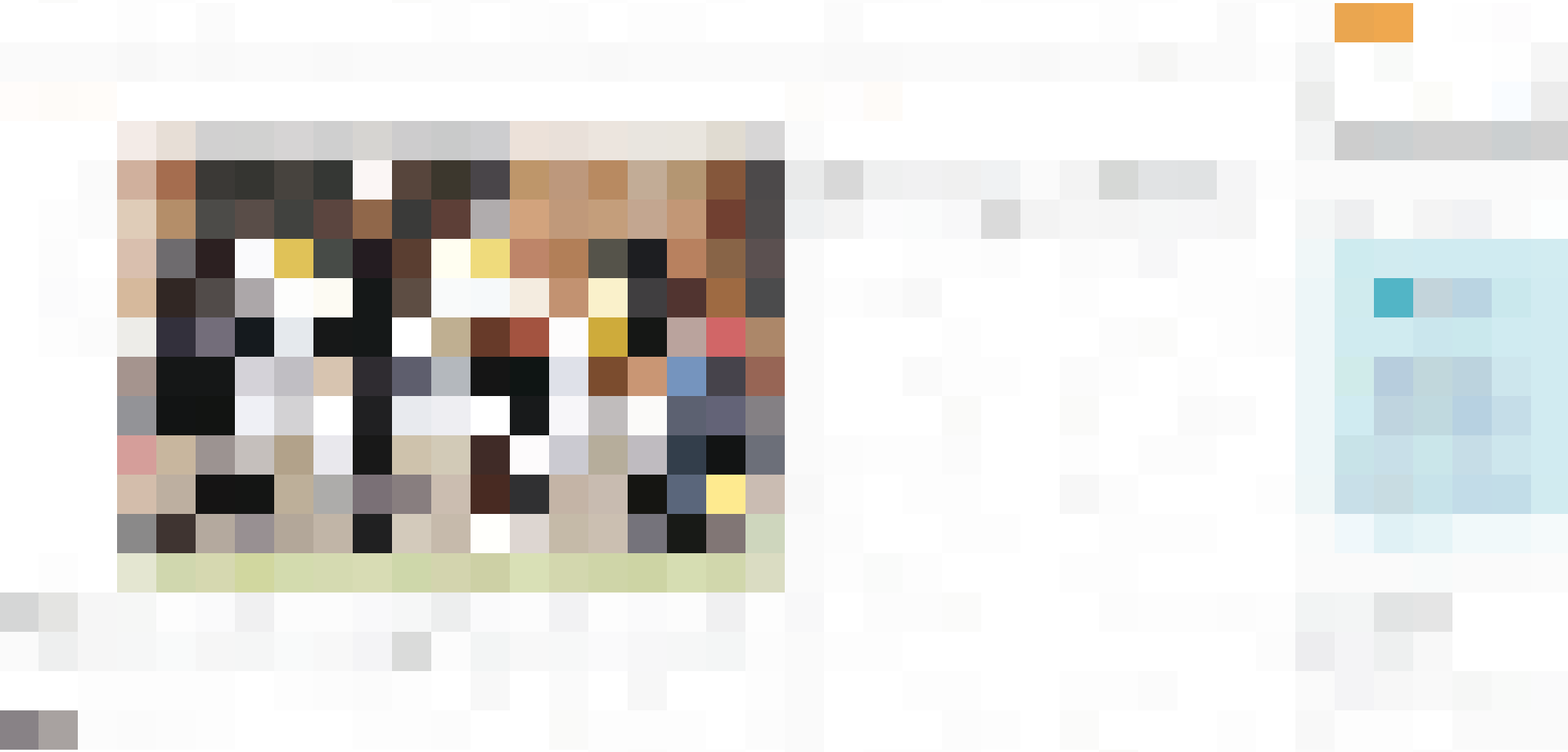
This is where we stand. Years later, we are still holding rallies in his support all over the world. This time, things didn't work out. He has been given four execution dates, all of which were stayed — until Wednesday. Our criminal justice system is hardly doing justice by executing an innocent man. Is the death penalty worth it?

The Annual March to Abolish the Death Penalty will be held Oct. 22 at the Capitol.

— Anne Kuhn  
President, Texas Amnesty







# Skeptics attempt to overturn pseudoscience with podcast

By Robert Starr  
Daily Texan Staff

Science has had a tough time in the popular media. On TV for instance, every “Cosmos,” “Mythbusters” or “Planet Earth” has about a dozen Fox specials about alien abductions, ghost hunting shows or talk show hosts promoting psychics to cancel them out. It’s difficult to present science in both an entertaining and accurate fashion, and it’s even harder to stay on the air as audiences’ attention spans get shorter and shorter.

Enter the new media — specifically the Internet — and in this particular case, podcasts. “The Skeptics’ Guide to the Universe,” or SGU to its fans, advocates skepticism — the notion of not accepting claims at face value — one of the cornerstones of science. The show is just five self-proclaimed science rogues discussing recent science news items, but the stars of the show and their rapport keep things entertaining on a week-to-week basis, enough so that it consistently ranks among the most downloaded science podcasts on iTunes. But the stars of the show aren’t above gimmicks, and starting tonight they’re going to put on a 24-hour episode of the SGU accessible from their website.

“The original worry that I had was going to be content,” said Jay Novella, one of the hosts. “But we didn’t really have a problem coming up with a lot of content. We all could just talk and talk and talk and really there’s no end to it.”

Instead of sticking to prerecorded material on what is typically an audio-only show, the 24-hour episode will be broadcast live across the Internet in full streaming video. Jay Novella talked like a child in a candy store, excited by all the possibilities.

“We have general ideas ... like we’re building a lair. It’s a skeptical-slash-hero lair, so what’s going to be in it? We’re having fun with it,” Jay Novella said.

There’s no question that the stars of the SGU are either nerds, dorks or geeks (depending on your preferred nomenclature), with the rogues occasionally finding themselves distracted from the science to talk about “Star Trek” or “Lord of the Rings” or in a recent episode, Gary Coleman’s appearance on the Buck Rogers TV show. However, rather than becoming off-putting, the geekiness gives the show personality.

The idea for a 24-hour show originated with Steve Novella, the de-facto leader of the show, who leads the discussion each week in addition to balancing his day job as an academic neurologist at Yale.

“In an average eight-hour work day or 12 hours where Steve’s being

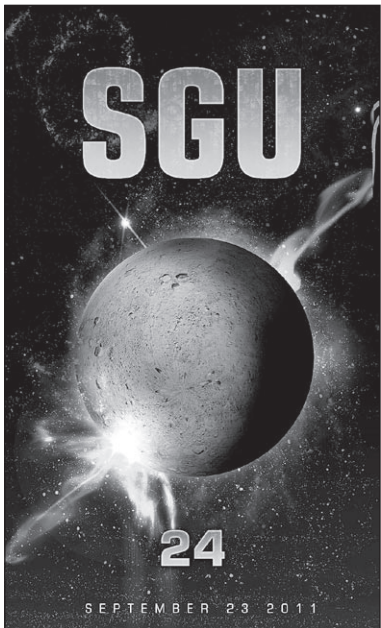


Photo courtesy of The Skeptics’ Guide to the Universe  
The 24-hour episode of The Skeptics’ Guide to the Universe begins tonight at 7:00 p.m.

productive, he gets as much done as it takes me a week to do,” Jay Novella said.

The other rogues Bob Novella, Evan Bernstein and Rebecca Watson, are just a few people who are gun ho about skepticism, which Jay Novella describes as “organized critical thinking.”

“I’m a skeptical activist. That’s it. I’m driven by my desire. This isn’t about fame and money because if it were, I would be a joke. We do what we do because we want to educate people,” Jay Novella said.

Talking to Jay Novella, however, it seems like more than that. To him, science isn’t a sterile and lifeless topic to memorize and get tested on. Instead, it’s a way of looking at the world and seeing things that weren’t there before. It provides the same wonder to him as religion might to somebody else.

“Watching all the science take place, and seeing all the hopeful discoveries that disappear or sometimes turn into something. That process, we get to enjoy just by reading the news every day. That’s awesome,” Jay Novella said.

Promoting skepticism in a world of pseudoscience and misleading news reports is no easy task, particularly in the world of traditional media, but the Internet has allowed for many grassroots movements to gain a better following, most fueled only by passion.

And passion clearly is the key motivator for Jay Novella. As he pauses for a second while talking about science and technology and the amazing things that the future will bring, he breaks whatever thought he was in the middle of to let out a burst of pure emotion.

“Man, what a time to be alive!”

# POPindex

BY ALEKSANDER CHAN

**Coach Taylor won the Best Drama Actor Emmy...**

**Ken Jennings’ “Maphead.”**  
The super genius traces the surprisingly fascinating cultural history of maps.

**“Revenge” is surprisingly good.**  
A soap opera exclusivley about retribution.

**Rihanna’s “We Found Love.”**  
Her new single is good, but kind of a bummer.

**...but “Modern Family” won Best Comedy.**  
More like most overrated.

**Netflix splits into two companies, becomes twice as ridiculous.**

**HORNS UP**

**The Vulture Clickables iPhone App.**  
Your daily dose of pop culture links in a slick, organized database.

**Brad Pitt and Jonah Hill in “Moneyball.”**  
The movie is a little too technical, but their rapport is natural.

**The trailer for the fake “Where’s Waldo?” movie.**  
“WHERRREE ARE YOUU?!!”

**Facebook’s major redesign.**  
So. Much. Happening.

**“New Girl.”**  
We can’t decide if we love it or loathe it.

**College football conference shenanigans.**

**Emo’s outside stage closes.**

**HORNS DOWN**

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## WATCH FOR DOUBLE COVERAGE ON SEPT. 30

**WONDERWORD**  
By DAVID OUELLET  
**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.  
**SCALLOP AND LEEK SOUP**  

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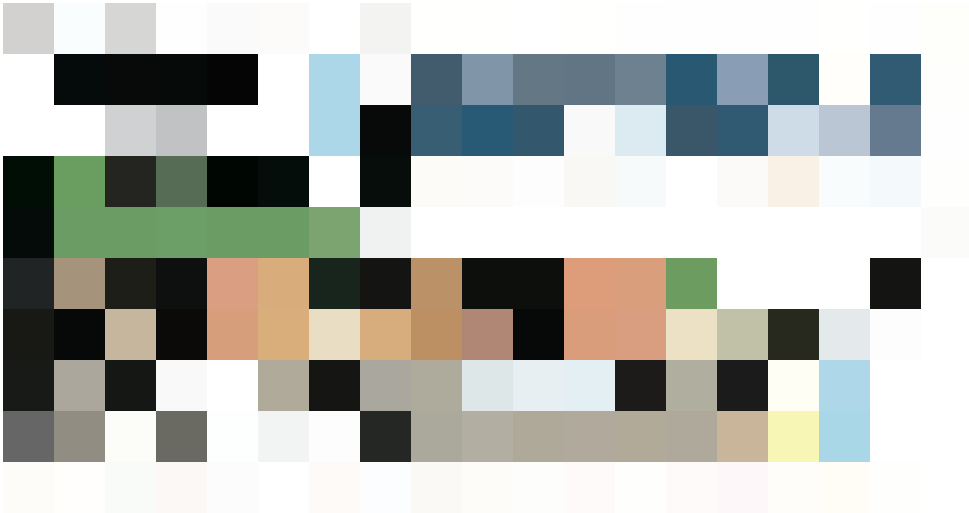
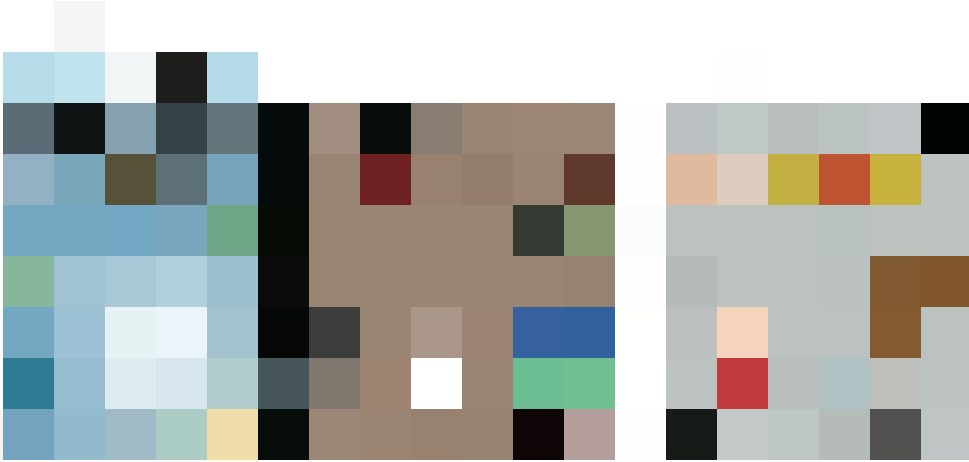
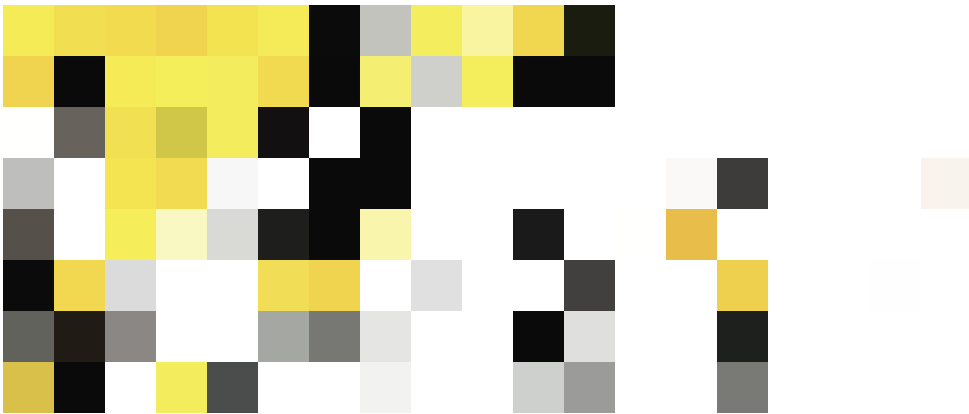
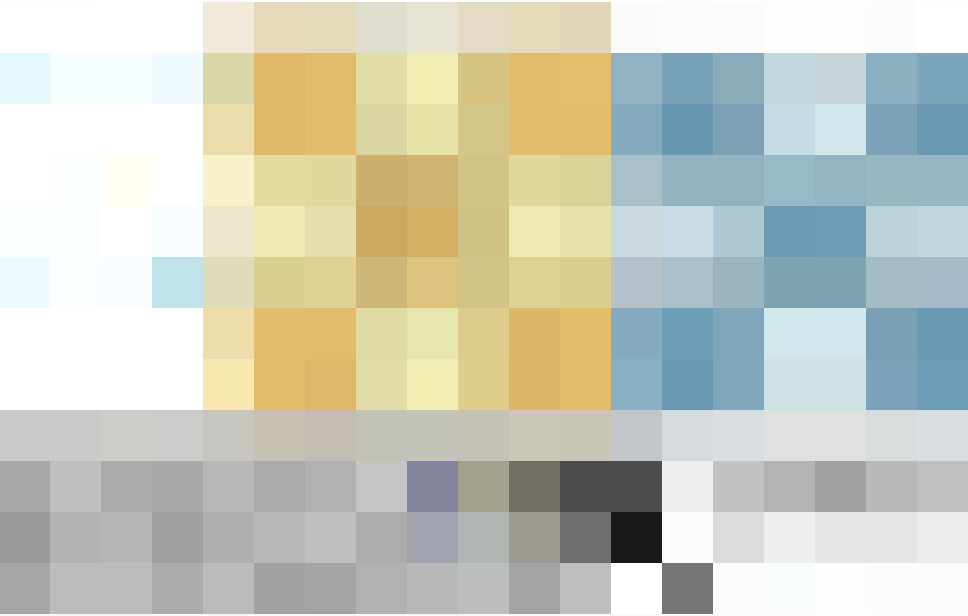
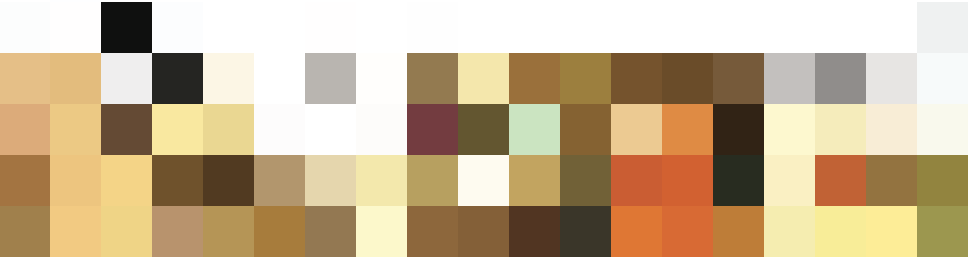
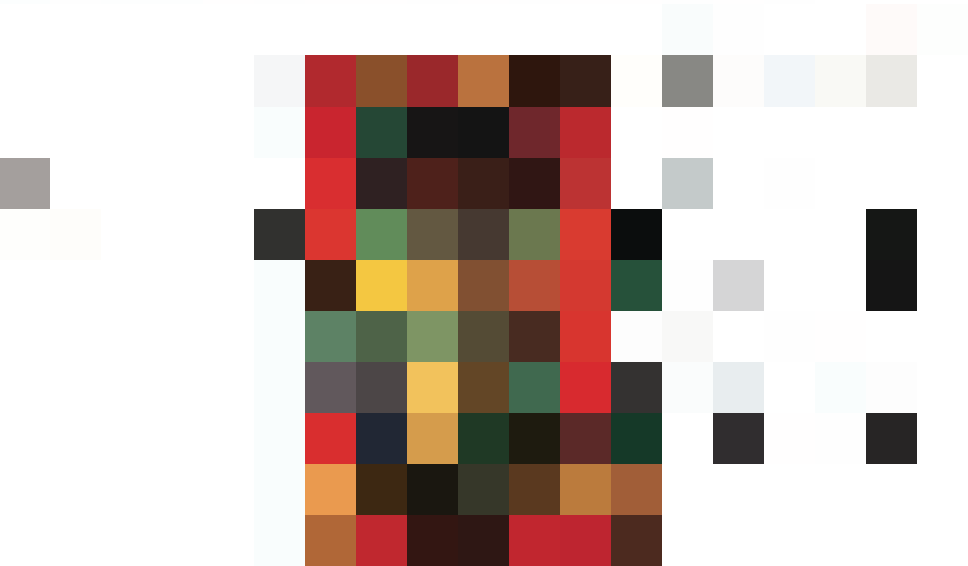
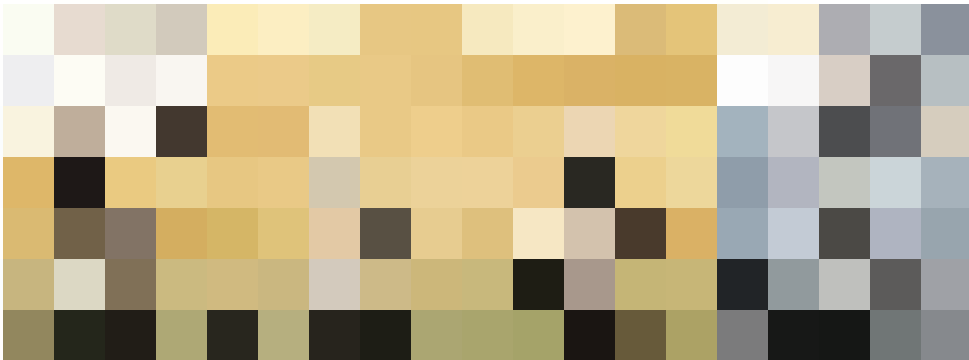
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MOVIE REVIEW  
MONEYBALL

Technicalities  
ruin potential  
of star-studded  
baseball film

By Alex Williams  
Daily Texan Staff

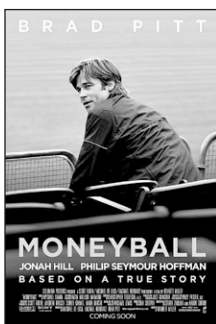
“Moneyball” isn’t director Bennett Miller’s first foray into fact-based drama — Bennett’s last film was Oscar winner “Capote” back in 2005. While “Capote” managed to tell a compelling story and featured an all-time great performance from Philip Seymour Hoffman, “Moneyball” suffers from its true-to-life basis, dwelling on the facts of Billy Beane’s attempt to revolutionize baseball too much to tell an entertaining story.

Brad Pitt stars as Beane, a failed professional baseball player turned general manager for the Oakland A’s. As his star players keep getting yanked from under him because of the A’s disadvantaged financial situation, Beane turns to a theory pioneered by Peter Brand (Jonah Hill), which uses statistics to construct a hypothetical “perfect team,” much to the chagrin of other A’s officials, especially field manager Art (Philip Seymour Hoffman).

Pitt has been getting some considerable Oscar buzz for his portrayal of Beane, and the attention isn’t totally unwarranted. Pitt brings a tremendous nervous energy to Beane’s mannerisms that makes him undeniably fun to watch. While letting Hill and Pitt bounce off each other for extended periods of time may not sound like the best idea on paper, the two have a certain chemistry that makes for some very big laughs and their scenes are among the



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures



Moneyball

Bennett Miller

**Genre:** Sports, Drama  
**Runtime:** 133 minutes  
**For those who like:** Miracle, Field of Dreams

**Grade:** C+

film’s highlights.

Unfortunately, almost everything else about the film is simply different levels of underwhelming. Many of the supporting characters are underused, especially Hoffman’s manager, who seems to exist solely to make Billy throw things and Chris Pratt as a down-on-his-luck player given a second chance. Hoffman and Pratt are both strong actors, but the script never gives them anything to do and as such, they never get a chance to impress in any significant manner.

The rest of the film requires a more-than-cursory knowledge of baseball, since the narrative of “Moneyball” strongly relies on lots and lots of facts related to the game, all of them presented with little to no context. This makes for a somewhat confusing experience for anyone without a relatively thorough knowledge of

the game and a frustrating one when we see Beane’s strategy failing with little explanation. There’s no doubt that screenwriters Aaron Sorkin and Steven Zaillian know how to tell a better story than this and their dialogue never dips below serviceable, but the script is all facts and no flavor.

Everyone involved in “Moneyball” obviously tries to form a shapeless mass of baseball-related factoids into a compelling story and even succeeds in a few scenes. When the film actually cuts to the baseball field, both in moments of triumph and defeat, things become legitimately compelling, but these moments are few and far between — brief signs of life in what’s mostly a bland regurgitation of baseball statistics. While Pitt and Hill do their best to keep the film interesting, “Moneyball” ultimately isn’t up to the challenge of making its story relatable.

TAPESTRY continues from PAGE 10

to the art in some way. “I think school-age children will be particularly enamored with the different interplay with light and the very tactile quality of the work,” Stimpert said. The tapestries are made up of thousands of bottle caps and other recycled materials that are essentially stitched together. “We certainly can’t allow people to touch the work — but the work makes you want to reach out and touch it.”

The tapestries in particular are incredibly labor intensive. Sewing together such large quantities of bottle caps is me-

ticulous, time-consuming work. “There are also psychological aspects that the artist incorporates,” Stimpert said. “The artist touches on the context of recycled materials and how the life history of objects play a role in African society.”

The artist brings together seemingly common bottle tops, driftwood and other common items in such a way that they take on a sense of monumentality that taps into a sense of individuality as well as community pride, Binder said. “El Anatsui’s work draws viewers in, making

us feel connected to the world that surrounds us,” Binder said. “There is a comfort in the beauty, but also in the humble nature of his materials.”

Stimpert said the work is awe-inspiring because Anatsui utilizes common, recyclable objects and manages to transform them into something entirely different and cohesive. “Mostly, I think the works are just beautiful, and I think people are going to be impressed with the sheer luminosity and scale,” he said. “They’re just breathtaking in the way that they’re presented.”

Wendy’s reinvents 42-year-old recipe

By Christina Rexrode  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — When Wendy’s decided to remake its 42-year-old hamburger, the chain agonized over every detail. A pickle chemist was consulted. Customers were quizzed on their lettuce knowledge. And executives went on a cross-country burger-eating tour.

The result? Dave’s Hot ‘N Juicy, named after late Wendy’s founder Dave Thomas. The burger — with extra cheese, a thicker beef patty, a buttered bun and hold the mustard, among other changes — will be served in restaurants starting Monday.

“Our food was already good,” said Denny Lynch, a Wendy’s spokesman. “We wanted it to be better. Isn’t that what long-term brands do? They reinvent themselves.”

For Wendy’s Co., based in Dublin, Ohio, reinvention is critical. That’s why executives at the 6,600-restaurant chain spent the past two and a half years going over burger minutiae during an undertaking they call Project Gold Hamburger. That included deciding whether to switch from white onions on its burgers to red (they did), to change the fat/lean ratio of the meat (they didn’t), or to go with plain or crinkled pickles (they picked crinkled).

Wendy’s is trying to boost lackluster



Paul Vernon | Associated Press

The new Dave’s Hot ‘N Juicy Cheeseburger is being assembled in a research lab at Wendy’s international headquarters in Dublin, Ohio.

sales and fight growing competition from much bigger rival McDonald’s on one end and expanding fast-casual chains like Five Guys Burgers and Fries on the other. Part of the problem is that Americans in the economic downturn are being pickier about how they spend their dining-out dollars. But the biggest issue is that Wendy’s, which hadn’t changed its burger since the chain began in 1969, let its food offerings get stale while competitors updated their menus.

Still, it can be risky to tweak an old favorite. The past is littered with ex-

amples of this, including New Coke and Clear Pepsi, which were pulled from store shelves because customers didn’t like them. Wendy’s itself stumbled a few years ago when it rolled out breakfast foods. The company now says its mistake was offering omelets and pancakes, which aren’t conducive to eating on the go.

“We have a lot of catching up to do in some areas,” said Gerard Lewis, Wendy’s head of new product development. “But after we launch this hamburger there will be folks who need to catch up to us.”

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honoring 6th Street’s original name, Pecan Street.

The Pecan Street Merchants’ Association, a group of volunteer-based business owners, has always placed importance on free admission to the festival so that it is open to the Austin community and surrounding areas. The city of Austin has gone into partnership with the board to help sponsor the festival expenses.

“All of the money we make goes out to different projects on 6th Street and the downtown area,” Sedwick said. “We have given money most recently to Bastrop wildfire relief and the \$75,000 was matched by Time Warner to give to the Red Cross for wildfire relief.”

Tamara Ford, a spokeswoman for the festival, said the event is well-attended by people from all over Austin and Central Texas because of its emphasis on the arts. In fact, the celebration is the largest art festival in Central Texas, attracting local artists along with craft and food vendors.

The attractions on Old Pecan

Street will extend from Interstate Highway 35 to Brazos Street where the roads will be closed off.

In the past the event has attracted more than 300,000 people, generating an economic impact of around \$43 million, according to the festival’s website. Tourists are drawn to the special events and the dozens of bands performing. This year’s attractions include The LEGO Experience Tour, where festival attendees can partake in hands-on building-block fun, Wahl’s “Face the Day” Tour where men can get free trims and grooming tips and Doc Seaton’s Magic Sideshow.

This will be the first time Doc Seaton’s Magic Sideshow is featured in the celebration. After last year’s success at the Inaugural Austin Street Magic Festival, Pecan Street Festival coordinators contacted the sideshow to perform for the fall, said Dan Page, producer of and performer in the show. There will be 36 performers and two tents, the Feature Stage and the Close-Up

<b>WHAT:</b> Pecan Street Festival
<b>WHERE:</b> 6th Street, from I-35 to Brazos Street
<b>WHEN:</b> Saturday & Sunday
<b>WEB:</b> <a href="http://oldpecanstreetfestival.com">oldpecanstreetfestival.com</a>
<b>TICKETS:</b> Free

Tent, which allow for a more personal experience than the ongoing street magic.

Because Austin has the third-largest group of magicians in the country, city council will commemorate local magicians and designate Trinity Street between 5th and 6th streets as Magic Street starting Thursday evening until the end of the festival.

“The variety of magicians, balloonists, jugglers, Hula-Hoopers, palm readers and the group of eclectic people is really invigorating,” Page said. “Magic really only exists in the moment, it’s a wondrous experience when you’re a foot away.”

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# Blanton exhibit focuses on works by African artist

By Rachel Perlmutter  
Daily Texan Staff

Opening Sunday, the Blanton Museum of Art's latest exhibition "When I Last Wrote to You about Africa" will showcase a major retrospective of internationally renowned contemporary artist, El Anatsui. The traveling exhibition, organized by the Museum for African Art in New York City, spans four decades of the artist's works drawn from public and private collections worldwide.

The Museum for African Art's curator of contemporary art, Lisa Binder, selected 60 pieces for the exhibition that she said best represent Anatsui's body of work and demonstrate primary themes utilized by the artist: language, communication and history. "As this is a retrospective, it was important to include objects from all phases of his career that convey the amazing depth and variety of his practice," Binder said.

The Ghanaian-born artist currently works and lives in Nigeria. He has made his career extracting the context from discarded materials and transforming them into striking, cohesive works of art that touch on local, global and personal histories from his west African culture.

El Anatsui has been recognized internationally as one of the most innovative and compelling artists of his generation. His work is collected by institutions spanning the globe from The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Museum of Modern Art in New York to the British Museum in London and the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

"When I Last Wrote to You about Africa" is the largest collection of El Anatsui's work to



Photo courtesy of The October Gallery

**Above:** Akua's *Surviving Children* is a 1996 floor installation by Anatsui utilizing metal and driftwood which has been carved with a chainsaw. **Right:** *Sacred Moon*, one of Anatsui's famed tapestries created in 2007, stretches almost 12 feet long and is comprised of recycled aluminum liquor bottle tabs woven together with copper wire.

**WHAT:** Artist Talk between internationally renowned sculptor El Anatsui, curator Lisa Binder and UT professor of art and art history Moyosore Okediji

**WHERE:** Blanton Auditorium

**WHEN:** Saturday, 2 p.m.

**TICKETS:** Free

**WHAT:** El Anatsui exhibit

**WHERE:** Blanton Museum of Art

**WHEN:** Sept. 25 — Jan. 22, 2012

**WEB:** [blantonmuseum.org](http://blantonmuseum.org)

**TICKETS:** Free w/ student ID



Photo courtesy of Jack Shainman Gallery

be shown in the United States, and the Blanton is the only southwest venue to host the exhibition. The show consists of drawings, paintings, sculptural

floor and wall installations and

wall hangings of recycled materials which the artist refers to as tapestries, said Kathleen Brady Stimpert, Blanton director of public relations.

"There really is a good variety,

but obviously the star pieces in the exhibition will be the wall hangings," Stimpert said. "All of the works are equally beautiful, but the wall hangings are what Anatsui is

best known for."

The dynamic show ensures that all ages will be able to relate

**TAPESTRY** continues on **PAGE 9**

## Historic street festival strives to preserve Austin culture

By Elizabeth Hinojos  
Daily Texan Staff

On Saturday and Sunday, Austin will harken back to its pre-metropolitan roots and keep the state capitol "weird" at the biannual Pecan Street Festival. This celebration marks the 33-year anniversary of the 6th Street festivities, representing the history of the district itself and the era which started downtown life in Austin.

Until the '70s, downtown was scarcely populated, with abandoned buildings scattered about. A pioneering group of Austinites known as the Old Pecan Street Association was instrumental in reclaiming the downtown space and starting renovation of the old buildings.

"The idea was to preserve the historical appeal of the street, while revitalizing the downtown area," said Shannon Sedwick, president of the Old Pecan Street Association. The association wanted to uphold a sense of the buildings' past and present, she said.

The association needed adequate funding for restoration costs and bringing a street fair to life was a solution to their problems. In 1978, the Pecan Street Festival was started and included local food and art vendors along with bands from the surrounding area, establishing a community event for cultural preservation and creativity. Because of the festival's positive turnout, the celebration became a biannual spring and fall tradition,

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